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Madras circle. In Mr. Taylor's second catalogue this error is corrected.*

Annalen der K. K. Sternwarte in Wien, dritter Folge, erster und zweiter Band. 8vo. Wien, 1851–2.

The particular title of this book is, *Argelander's Zonen-Beobachtungen vom* 45° *bis* 80° *nördlicher Declination in mittleren Positionen für* 1842·0, *geordnet,* von Wilhelm Oeltzen.

This reduction of Argelander's northern zones was in part performed by M. Oeltzen before the autumn of 1850, when he was attached to the Vienna Observatory. Its early completion is due to M. Littrow, the director of the Observatory, who relieved M. Oeltzen as much as possible from his ordinary work.

The catalogue contains 26,425 stars, arranged in order of right ascension, with the magnitudes, right ascension to hundredths of a second, and declination to tenths of a second. To each star is appended the zone and number which belong to it in Argelander's observations. There are no precessions given, but two tables by which they may be computed, and the reduction to another epoch readily effected. A short introduction of twenty pages (in German) explains M. Oeltzen's mode of procedure.

Logarithmorum VI. Decimalium Nova Tabula Berolinensis, &c. Auctore Carolo Bremiker. 8vo. Berolini, 1852.

This volume contains the logarithms of numbers and logarithmic sines, cosines, and tangents for every 10″ to six places of decimals. There is an introduction (82 pages) in Latin, explaining the use and construction of the tables. The work is very clearly printed, nicely arranged, and of a convenient size.

Elements and Ephemeris of Westphal's Comet (II. 1852), by August Sonntag.

The periodic time is 60·8 years. The ephemeris extends from 1852, Nov. 12, to 1853, Feb. 1. *Ast. Nach.* No. 836, p. 322.

Elements of Psyche, compared with all the observations which could be collected, by M. Klinkerfues, of Göttingen Observatory. *Ast. Nach.* No. 831, p. 234.

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* This valuable Catalogue is also published as an independent work: "A General Catalogue of the principal Fixed Stars [11,015], from Observations made at the Honourable the East India Company's Observatory at Madras in the years 1830–1843, by Thomas Glanville Taylor, &c." 4to. pp. 272. Madras, 1844.

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Comparison by M. Brorsen of all the Observations of the Comet II. 1851, with his elliptic elements: published in No. 782, *Ast. Nach.* No. 827, p. 270.

Notice of the establishment of an observatory at Toulouse, and a particular account of a shooting star observed at Bourdeaux and Toulouse, with the elements of its trajectory, by M. F. Petit, Director of the Observatory of Toulouse. *Ast. Nach.* No. 834, p. 287.

Observations of Shooting Stars on the evening of the 9.10th of August, 1852, *on board the Ville de Paris.* By M. E. de Jonquières. (Letter to M. Arago.)

(*Comptes Rendus, Sept.* 13, 1852.)

These observations were made on the eastern coast of the island of Sardinia. The number of stars which appeared every hour amounted to about seventy. The purity of the atmosphere allowed the trace of each *fusée* to continue sufficiently long to be enabled to form a good estimate of its direction. All the stars appeared to diverge from the same point of the heavens. This point was situate between 35 (*Hev*) *Cassiop.* and 33 *α Persei*, but somewhat nearer the former than the latter of these two stars.

Note on the Means of diminishing the Oscillations produced at the Surface of Mercury in the vicinity of ordinary Roads, Railroads, and Manufactories, with the view of facilitating Astronomical Observations. By MM. Séguin and Mauvais.

(*Comptes Rendus, Oct.* 11, 1852.)

The experiments were made at Fontenay. No sensible amelioration was obtained by placing the vessel containing the mercury upon elastic bodies, such as bales composed of layers of caoutchouc piled above each other, empty balloons of caoutchouc, &c. &c. When the vessel, however, was *suspended* through the intervention of an elastic substance, the oscillations were in every instance diminished. When vulcanised caoutchouc was used for this purpose the oscillations were completely annihilated, it having been impossible to perceive the slightest trace of them when the reflected images of different objects were observed with a portable telescope of moderate magnifying power. In this case the vessel was suspended by a cord passing through the caoutchouc disposed in the form of a ring.

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